

**Amherst Leisure Services and Supplemental Education Commission Minutes
Wednesday, April 14, 2010, 7:30 p.m., Amherst Police Community Room**

Present: Stan Ziomek, Chair, Peter Blier, Vice Chair, Alana Bonneau, Jim Patulak, Maryanna Whitemore, Anna-Beth Winograd, Linda Chalfant, LSSE Director
Minutes: Linda Chalfant, LSSE Director

Introductions/Welcome: New LSSE Commission members Maryanna Whitemore and Anna-Beth Winograd were introduced and welcomed at the opening of the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes: J. Patulak moved that the minutes from March 10, 2010 be approved. A. Bonneau seconded the motion. The vote was 4-2 with two members abstaining and four in favor.

250th Anniversary Committee: S. Ziomek reported that the 250th Committee voted to dispose of their fund balance in the following manner: \$25,000 would be returned to the Town, 420,000 would go to the Jones Library Special Collections, \$11 to 13,000 would be used to purchase granite benches for the Town Common and \$1,500 would be given to the University of Massachusetts Marching Band.

Community Preservation Committee: S. Ziomek reported that CPAC voted unanimously with two abstaining to support the purchase of the Hawthorne property.

Puffers Pond Committee: J. Patulak reported that there is a major problem with traffic and parking around the Puffers Pond area and he has witnessed this first hand on site visits. There is an expectation that the situation may worsen with the War Memorial Pool not opening this year. The Puffers Pond Committee is meeting a couple more times and then they will submit their final report.

Kendrick Park Committee: P. Blier reported that the committee hadn't been brought together to meet recently, though the group is interested in continuing. It was reported by L. Chalfant reported that the Landscape Architect Request for Qualifications was put advertised and proposals were in.

Community Field Discussion:

Bank Project- S. Ziomek stated that the bank near the concessions stand was in poor condition. Currently just 10% of the bank is grass and erosion is occurring.

Fence- The new safety fences are up at both baseball and softball fields. A safety fence was also installed at the Middle School Softball Field. There was no fencing installed at the Middle School Baseball Field and the Commission members expressed concern at this omission. AB Winograd inquired as to how the Commission could express its concerns to the School. S. Ziomek suggested a follow up letter documenting the need might be in order.

Restroom- L. Chalfant updated the Committee on the meeting held with the Architect for the new comfort station. S. Ziomek expressed an interest in attending the meeting with the Architect.

Budget Update, Fee Subsidy Status, Grants Update: L. Chalfant updated the LSSE Commissioners on the FY 10 budget and the challenges to improve the deficit. L. Chalfant announced that the Community Development Block Grant will again be available next year for some LSSE programs. Many families are looking for a subsidy in order to send their children to summer camp, however funding is 37% less than it was a couple of years ago.

Reorganization Proposal: L. Chalfant informed the Commissioners of the Town Manager's interest in merging all three remaining Community Services Departments, Health, Senior Center and Leisure Services, into one entity.

War Memorial Community Field Comfort Station Update: L. Chalfant announced that the Town had decided that the Department could not apply for Rotary Club funds for the War Memorial Pool as no official plan had been adopted for reopening the pool or changes to the site. L. Chalfant announced that the Town had received one proposal for designer qualifications for the War Memorial/Community Field Comfort Station.

Director's Report: L. Chalfant provided a written handout summary report of staff/program highlights and capital projects/issues.

Old Business: None

New Business: S. Ziomek suggested that L. Chalfant convene a meeting with the Interim Superintendant to discuss School/Town Fields and Facilities.

Adjournment: J. Patulak moved that the meeting be adjourned. A. Bonneau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.